**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Sacramento District

Creating PDF files from SPECSINTACT

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General

This report provides guidance for creating Adobe Acrobat Portable Data Format (PDF) files from SPECSINTACT. PDF files are usually identified by the .pdf extension.

Software

This guidance was developed for use with the following software:
C SPECSINTACT w/ SGML Versions 2.1.4 and later.
C Adobe Acrobat 3.0
     Exchange
     Distiller
C Apple Color LaserWriter 12/600 (Color PostScript Printer Driver)
C PDF Writer Driver for NT - Version 3.01b dated March 31, 1997 (pwntb8.exe)

Two PDF Creation Methods

1. Print directly to PDF format using the Adobe Acrobat Printer Driver. HQ USACE sent each District 16 licenses for Adobe Acrobat 3.0 (including Exchange, Distiller, & Catalog), along with 1 license each for PageMaker 6.0 and Photoshop 4.0. The IMO offices were to install these to share information across Division and Branch boundaries to assist the Electronic Bid Solicitation process. **This option requires all users creating PDF files have an Adobe Acrobat Exchange software license.**

2. Print to a PostScript (PS) file and convert to PDF format. PS files are usually identified by the .ps extension. The Acrobat Distiller quickly converts PS files to PDF format automatically. Adobe recommends this method when documents contain graphic figures and images. **This option requires only one software license of Adobe Acrobat Exchange, but has an extra step and uses more hard disk storage space.**

SPK NOTE:

Sacramento District requires A-E firms to provide PS files as a contract deliverable if they don't have Adobe Acrobat PDF capabilities.

Install a PRINT DRIVER

You only need to install Print Drivers once for each printer configuration. Windows 3.1x and Windows 95 systems may need the Installation Disks. Windows NT users may need the assistance of the system administrator.

PostScript PRINT DRIVER

A black and white PS printer driver will work on text if you don't need any color display in the Adobe Acrobat Reader. The Microsoft **PostScript Printer** driver is satisfactory for most applications. The **Apple Color LaserWriter 12/600** is the recommended PS printer driver for most color print applications. We found the QMS ColorLaser didn't work with Submittal Register.

Adobe PDFWriter Printer Driver

The Adobe Acrobat v. 3.01 CD installs software for Acrobat Exchange and PDFWriter, Acrobat Capture and Scan, Acrobat Distiller, and Acrobat Catalog. Use the **INSTALL.EXE** program at the root level of the to install **Adobe PDFWriter**.

Windows 3.1x Print Drivers

Open the **Control Panel/Printers** and click on **Add>>** to check if you have a PostScript and/or Adobe PDFWriter Printer Drivers installed. If you can't see one, click on **Install** and follow instructions to find available drivers.

Windows 95 and Windows NT Print Drivers

Open the **Start/Settings/Printers/Add Printer** and follow instructions to find the available drivers as noted above. Contact your system administrator if you have problems.

Connect to a Port

When you install a Printer Driver, it normally connects to the default printer port for your system. You need change the connection to a port that will create a file instead only for the PS printer drivers. Do not change the connection for the **Adobe PDFWriter**

Windows 3.1x Connection

Click the installed PS printer driver to select it and click on **Connect** get the Connect dialogue box. Scroll the Ports: listing to find and select **FILE**: and click on **OK** as shown in Figure 1. Do not select any LPT#: or COM#: ports.
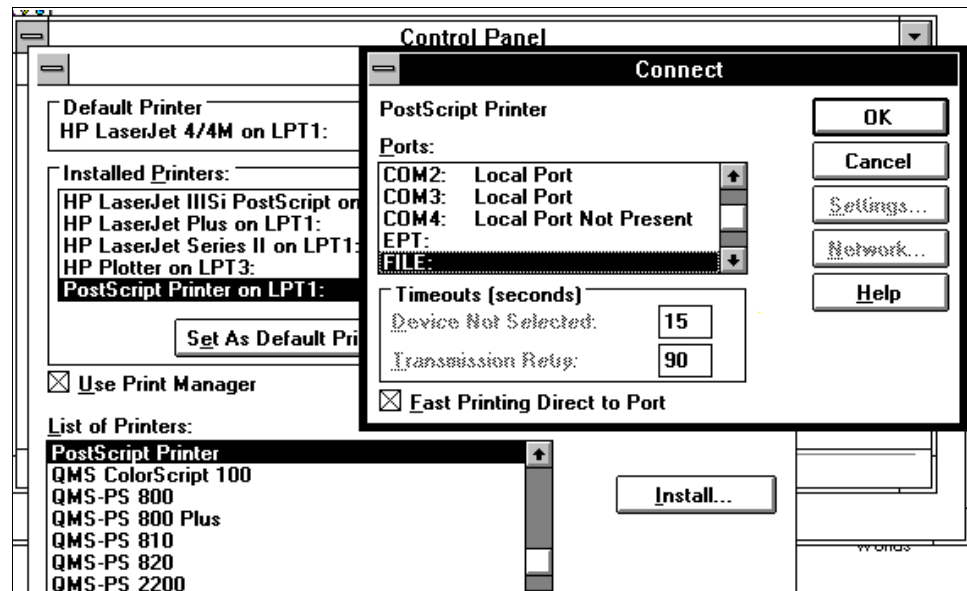

Figure 1 Connecting to FILE: in Windows 3.1

Installing Distiller Assistant

The Adobe Acrobat v. 3.01 CD installs Distiller Assistant into the Start or Start Up folder in Windows (depends on the version of Windows). This enables Distiller Assistant to perform the basic function of monitoring the Distiller's Watched Folders and launch the Distiller when PS files are placed in the Watched Folders. If the **PostScript Printer** driver is installed before you install Adobe Acrobat 3.0, a printer port called "DISTASST.PS" is

created and Distiller Assistant is also enabled to print to this port to make one-step PDF creation possible using Distiller. However, if **PostScript Printer** is not already installed at Acrobat installation time, the port is not created and Distiller Assistant is not configured to enable one-step PDF creation.

After installing any of the PostScript printers listed during installation from your system disks, you can re-install Acrobat 3.0 and do a custom installation by selecting only "Acrobat Distiller 3.0".

PostScript to PDF

Printing JOB

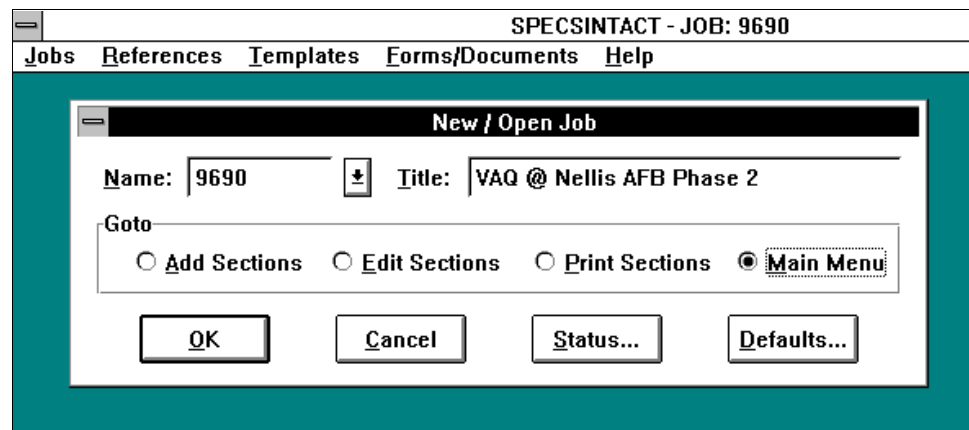### Open Job from MAIN MENU

Figure 2 Open Job from MAIN MENU

Confirm Printer Setup to PostScript Printer

Select **Jobs** from the Top Pull-down Menu,
    Then select **Printer Setup** to get Figure 3
    From the list under **Select Printer/Port**, use the scroll bar and click on
    PostScript Printer on FILE:
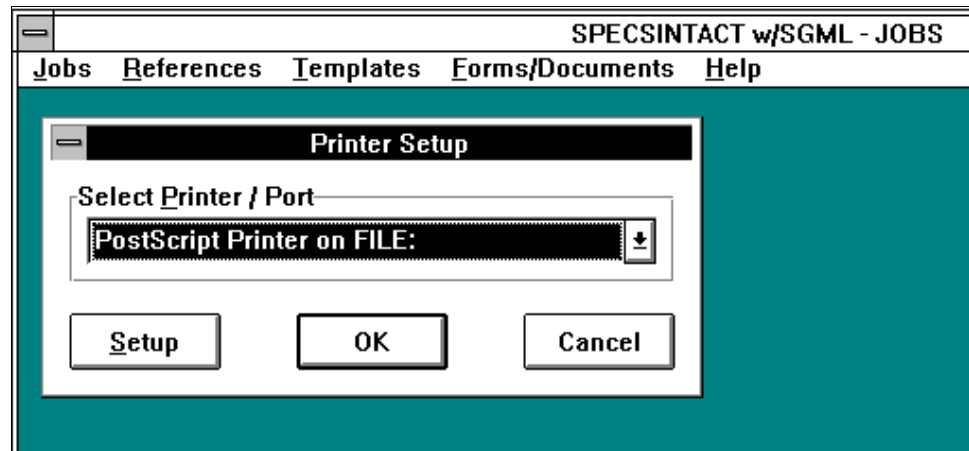   Click on **OK**

Figure 3 Confirm Printer Setup to **PostScript Printer on FILE:**

Print SECTIONS as usual

Select **Jobs** from the Top Pull-down Menu,
 Then select **Print** to get the Job Print Options Box (Figure 4)
 Select **All Sections** or **Some Sections**
 Select any other items or OPTIONS required as usual
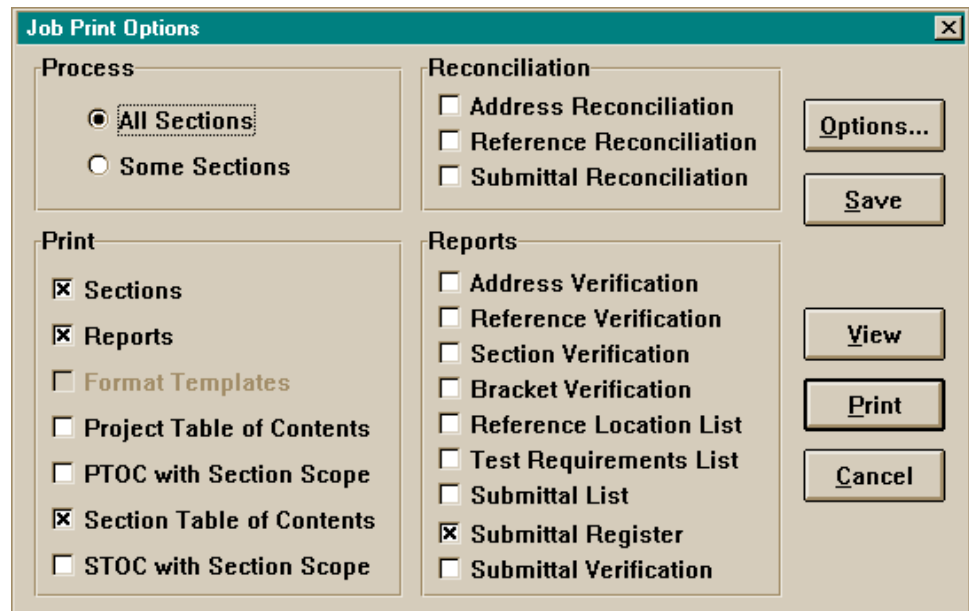 Click on **Print** to begin printing

Figure 4 Ready to begin Printing with Submittal Register

Figure 5 Format Options to Combine TOC with Sections

SPECSINTACT with SGML now has a Format option to Combine TOC with Section as shown in Figure 5. This option numbers the combined file sequentially beginning with the first page of the TOC. Do not use this option if you want to maintain pagination of the section separate from the TOC.

Printing Submittal Register

The Submittal Register prints in landscape mode without having to adjust Printer Setup using the PostScript printer driver (Portrait mode is the default for sections).

Each section, table of contents, report, etc., will print to a separate file and a dialog box prompt for each file name will be displayed as shown in Figure 6.
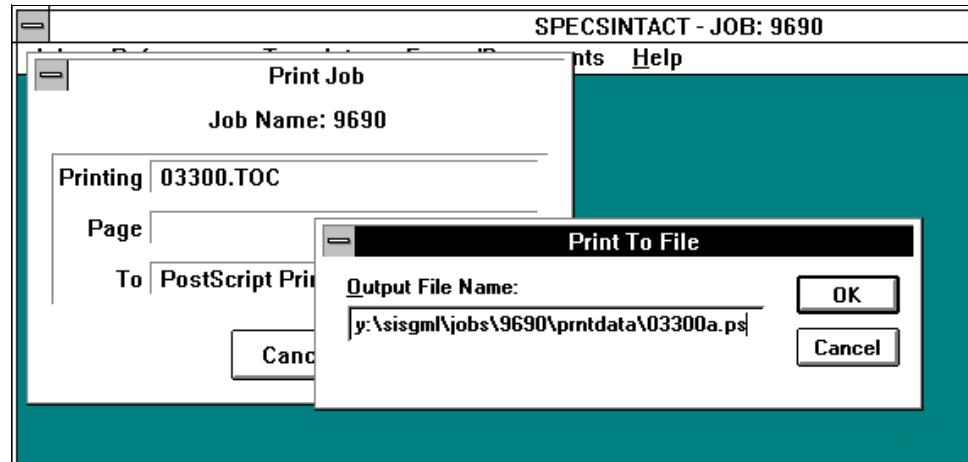

Figure 6 Prompt for File Name

Type in PATH for each FILE

The whole path with the file name and .ps extension should be entered here. The default path is to a subdirectory called WSWARE under the working directory that is assigned in the SETUP module. If you have installed Distiller Assistant to automatically convert the PS files to PDF, we recommend each job have a separate path listed in the Distiller's Watched Folders. When printing TOC and Sections separately, replace the .TOC extension with A.PS and replace the section .PRN extension with B.PS.

SPECSINTACT SPEED TIP #1:

To avoid retyping the path for each subsequent file, highlight the path entered in the first dialog box and hit CTRL C. Then in future prompt boxes, hit CTRL V to insert the text of the path. You will now only have to type the new file name. The section number will show at the top of the screen in the box titled Print Job.

DON'T OVERWRITE TOC FILE NAMES with SECTION FILE NAMES

Add the letter "A" into the file name for the TOC and the letter "B" for the section file name (i.e., 02581a.ps and 02581b.ps)

Estimated Time for the PS Process

Approximately 2 minutes minimum and 5 minutes maximum for each file. This includes entering the path/file name and processing.

Direct to PDF

Printing to PDF directly from SPECSINTACT works extremely well. Just select the Adobe PDFWriter as shown below and print you job as usual.

Printer Setup & Configuration

Confirm Printer Setup to Adobe PDFWriter

Select **Jobs** from the Top Pull-down Menu,
    Then select **Printer Setup** to get Figure 7
    From the list under **Select Printer/Port**, use the scroll bar and click on
    PostScript Printer on FILE:
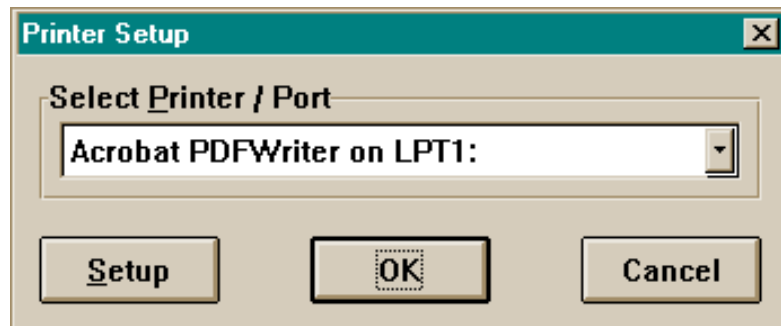   Click on **OK**

Figure 7 Select the **Adobe PDFWriter**
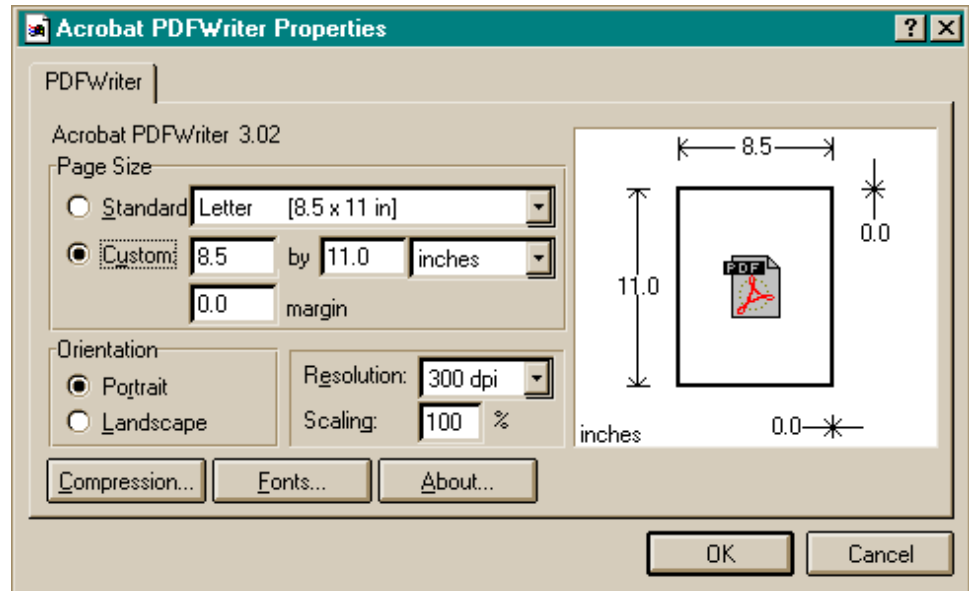
Figure 8 Typical Printer Setup
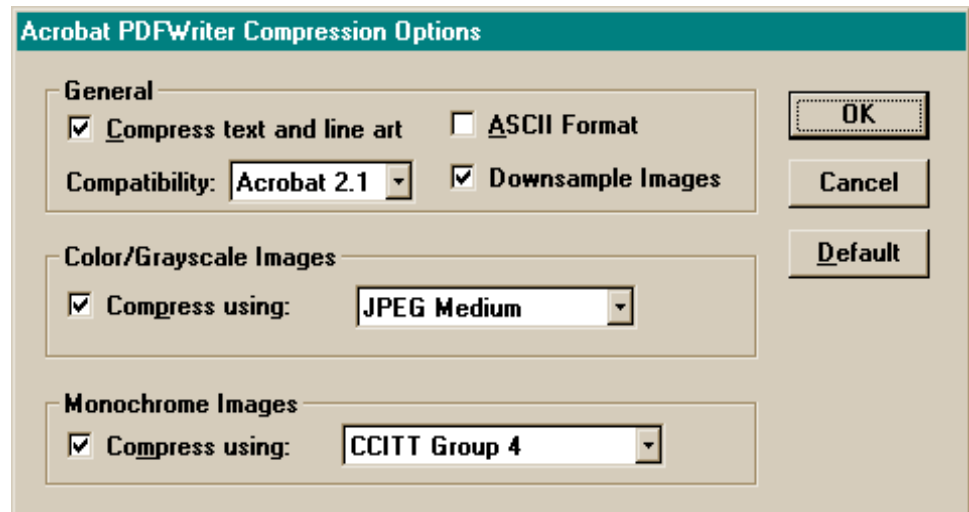
Figure 9 Typical Compression Options
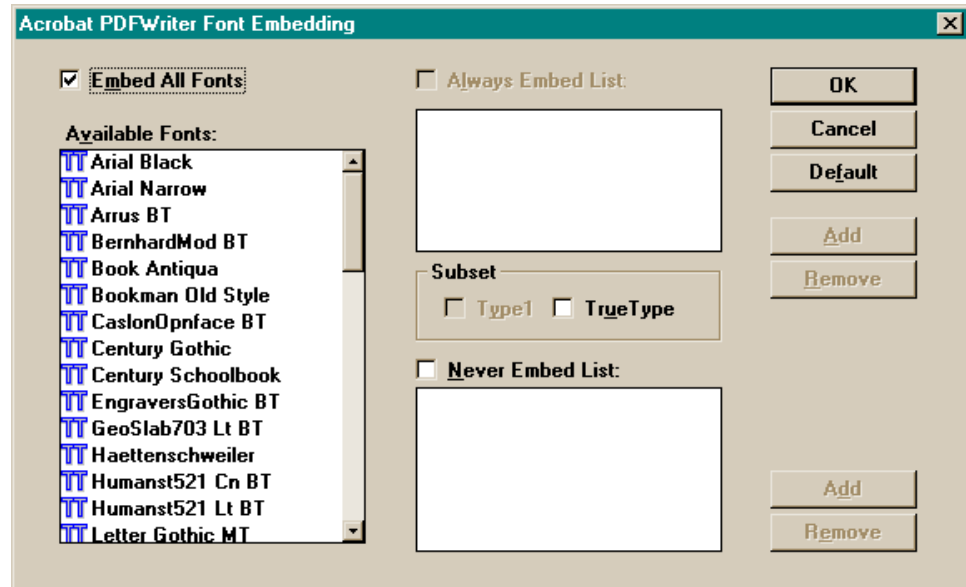
Figure 10 Check the **Embed All Fonts** option

Print SECTIONS as usual

Select **Jobs** from the Top Pull-down Menu,
 Then select **Print** to get the Job Print Options Box (Figure 4)
 Select **All Sections** or **Some Sections**
 Select any other items or OPTIONS required as usual (Figure 5)
 Click on **Print** to begin printing

Printing Submittal Register

The Submittal Register prints in landscape mode without having to adjust Printer Setup using the Adobe PDF Writer driver (Portrait mode is the default for sections).

Default Paths

The default directory for the Adobe PDF Writer PDF files is SISGML/WSWARE. Regular SPECSINTACT print files are also made and automatically put into the default path subdirectory under the job subdirectory, usually: SISGML/JOBS/'JOBNAME'/PRNTDATA/.

File Names

When printing all or multiple sections and reports, the Adobe PDF Writer print driver will stop after each item and prompt for a file name similar to (Figure 6). Windows NT or Windows 95, provides a long default file name, which will be something like JOBNAME - [#####.pdf. You can change the path and file name, but you'll have to for EACH file. See Speed Tip #1 above.

SPEED TIP #2

Do not select the check boxes for PROMPT FOR PDF INFO or VIEW PDF. Filling in data for PDF INFO is OK because it can then be used in Acrobat Catalog and Indexing, but it takes extra time. Viewing the PDF is unnecessary and may hang up the print job.

SPK NOTE:
Sacramento District Designers write Technical Specification Sections and the Specifications Writer in the Specifications Unit add the frontend and print the job. Filenames are changed to be just the 5 digit CSI # and saved to the default WSWARE directory. Then the PDF files are moved to our archive directory. We have three Specifications Writers and they make sure no one else is printing PDFs at the same time. The PDF print driver does, however, stop and prompt before overwriting a file with the same name. We use this method because then we can have a generic ACROBLD table of contents file with PDF filenames and Specifications Title.

Hardcopies are printed from the .pdf files to provide a final QC and record set.

Submittal Register

Printing Submittal Register

The Submittal Register prints in landscape mode without having to adjust Printer Setup using the Adobe PDF Writer driver (Portrait mode is the default for sections).

Submittal Register Program for Contractors.

SPECSINTACT writes a DOS based Clipper Submittal Register program to a floppy disk. This disk is provided to the Resident Office to give to the Contractor. Do not attempt to produce PDF or PS files from this program.

Flowchart

Creating PDF Files From SPECSINTACT

START

Open SPECSINTACT Job

Is Adobe Acrobat Exchange software loaded on your PC?

YES — Create PDF Files directly

NO — Create PostScript Files for conversion to PDF

Left branch (YES):

Select JOBS | PRINTER SETUP

Choose Acrobat PDFWriter as printer

Select Print Options and Print Job

Change path for saved .PDF file as desired

Including TOC w/ Section ?

NO — FILE NAMES Include letter "a" for toc Include letter 'b' for section

YES — FILENAME = "5 digit csi #".pdf

END

Right branch (NO):

Create PostScript Files for conversion to PDF

Select JOBS | PRINTER SETUP

Connect Port = FILE

Chose driver: Apple Color LaserWriter 12/600 or PostScript

PostScript or Apple Color LaserWriter Printer Listed ?

NO — Install Printer

YES — Select PostScript printer Portrait mode OK

Select Print Options and Print Job

Enter path & file name extension is **.ps** not .eps

Use Acrobat Distiller to convert to PDF

END